



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Pennsylvania Agricultural
Statistics Service
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Pennsylvania: Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

For The Week Ending August 6, 2000

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FAIR WEEK FOR FIELD WORK: There were 3.0 days suitable for field work. Wet weather this week kept field work to a minimum. Soil moisture was rated 7 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 35 percent surplus. Activities included harvesting small grains, potatoes, apples, peaches, and vegetables; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; spreading lime and fertilizers; repairing buildings; hauling and spreading manure; caring for livestock; baling straw; making hay and haylage; trimming brush and spraying crops.

CROPS: Corn condition continued to be mostly good to excellent throughout the state. Conditions in some areas were not as good in low lying fields. Statewide, 79 percent of the corn crop tasseled, 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. The percentage of the corn acreage in the dough stage was 35 percent. Only a few areas reported any of the corn crop in the dent stage. Soybean condition was mostly good to excellent. One farmer reported that soybean farmers need more light to set pods. Oat harvest continued with variable yields. The barley harvest was nearing completion. Potato harvest was just beginning. Some potato growers are spraying fields due to the high moisture and humidity. Blue mold was reported in tobacco fields. Cutting of hay continues at a normal pace. The quality of hay made continued to decline, this was due mostly to cool and wet weather. Fourth cutting of alfalfa was started in some areas.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture condition state-wide was mostly fair to good, with mostly good re-growth. Pastures that are left alone are becoming very weedy. Overall quality of state's pastures improved slightly since last week.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES: By week's end, 41 percent of the State's peach acreage was harvested, about 1 week ahead of normal. Apple harvest was 17 percent completed, slightly ahead of the average. Damp weather has caused some problems with fruit. The vegetable crops were reported to be in good condition.

U.S. As Of July 30, 2000: Abnormally cool weather hindered crop development in most areas east of the Rocky Mountains, but most crops remained up to 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. Most of the Corn

Belt received rain, but amounts varied widely, with some areas remaining too dry and other areas experiencing severe storms that produced damaging hail and wind. Rain relieved drought conditions in parts of the Southeast, mainly in Florida and along the Atlantic Coastal Plains. Farther north, in the mid-Atlantic States, substantial pockets of surplus moisture hampered crops. In the Great Plains, winter and spring small grain harvest were aided by dry weather. A few row crops were harvested along the western Gulf Coast. Seasonal temperatures aided crops along the Pacific Coast. Ninety percent of the corn acreage was at or beyond the silking stage, and 26 percent was at or beyond the dough stage. Below-normal temperatures hindered development in the Corn Belt, but progress through both stages remained ahead of last year's rapid pace and 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. Acreage at or beyond the dough stage accelerated in the central and southern Corn Belt. Increasing moisture shortages stressed fields in parts of the Corn Belt, while hail and strong winds damaged a few fields in other areas. Eighty-five percent of the soybean crop was blooming, slightly ahead of last year's early development, and more than 1 week ahead of the 71 percent average for this date. Fifty-one percent of the acreage was setting pods, well ahead of last year's 40 percent pace and far ahead of the 5-year average. Development rapidly progressed in the Corn Belt and lower Mississippi Valley, despite cooler-than-normal weather. Scattered rains and adequate moisture maintained conditions in most areas, but conditions deteriorated along the lower Ohio and Mississippi Valleys due to moisture shortages. The winter wheat harvest advanced to 91 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year and 1 week ahead of the 87 percent average for this date. Dry weather aided rapid progress in the northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest. The barley crop was 7 percent harvested, compared with 3 percent last year and 4 percent normally harvested by this date. The oat harvest was 38 percent complete, 3 percentage points ahead of last year and 11 percentage points ahead of the average for this date. Dry weather aided progress in the northern Great Plains. In the Corn Belt, progress was rapid despite rain delays in some areas.

PA Crop Progress For Week Ending August 6, 2000

	Current Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	Percent			
Corn, Silk	79	69	83	77
Corn, Dough	35	23	33	23
Winter Wheat, Harvested	97	94	99	95
Oats, Turning Yellow	92	91	96	96
Oats, Ripe	64	59	78	74
Oats, Harvested	41	33	58	51
Potatoes, Harvested	8	5	12	6
Alfalfa, 2 nd Cutting	81	76	89	79
Alfalfa, 3 rd Cutting	25	23	49	29
Timothy Clover, 2 nd Cutting	32	30	34	36
Peaches	41	29	38	29
Apples	17	16	13	9

PA Crop Condition For Week Ending August 6, 2000

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	3	17	48	31
Oats	0	3	27	55	15
Soybeans	0	4	17	57	22
Quality of Hay	10	32	34	17	7
Pasture Conditions	1	8	25	58	8
Peaches	2	4	11	79	4
Apples	2	3	18	70	7

Issued By: The Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service, Harrisburg, PA, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, National Weather Service.

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL
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Weather Data For Week Ending August 6, 2000

Reporting Station	Weekly Temperature				Growing Degree Days From April 1				Rainfall - Values Are For A 24-Hour Period Ending 7:00 A.M., In Inches									
	High	Low	Avg	Dep From Norm	40 Degrees		50 Degrees		July-August							For Week	From April 1	
					Days	Dep From Norm	Days	Dep From Norm	31	01	02	03	04	05	06	Total	Total	Dep From Norm
Erie	83	55	70	-2	2687	24	1549	47	0.67	0.00	0.42	3.13	0.02	0.00	0.36	4.60	23.73	8.82
Warren	85	48	70	0	2620	100	1470	80	0.16	0.09	0.00	1.01	0.05	0.00	0.36	1.67	21.08	3.76
Franklin	86	49	70	0	2791	194	1594	147	1.23	0.60	0.00	0.69	0.03	0.00	0.40	2.95	20.62	3.06
Clearfield	84	49	70	0	2623	73	1479	82	0.07	1.66	0.24	0.02	0.08	0.00	0.12	2.19	17.80	1.19
Pittsburgh	84	50	71	-1	3004	86	1793	113	0.06	0.22	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.76	1.28	22.83	7.97
Rector	87	49	71	-1	2766	-152	1610	-70	0.07	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.50	0.97	18.82	3.96
Altoona	83	51	72	-2	2823	27	1646	57	0.15	0.02	0.48	0.01	0.88	0.10	0.01	1.65	16.83	1.91
Emporium	84	49	70	0	2669	119	1515	118	0.02	0.84	0.20	0.32	0.12	0.00	0.14	1.64	18.37	1.76
Wellsboro	80	45	67	-2	2261	122	1183	111	0.19	0.04	0.00	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.46	17.09	3.36
State College	85	52	72	-1	2941	148	1745	133	0.06	0.00	0.36	0.11	0.75	0.02	0.17	1.47	13.25	-1.55
Williamsport	86	54	74	1	2961	12	1730	15	3.18	1.60	0.09	0.19	0.27	0.00	0.00	5.33	23.99	8.34
Selinsgrove	86	55	74	1	2922	61	1714	66	0.06	0.34	1.04	1.03	1.16	0.04	0.00	3.67	19.90	3.86
Montrose	81	45	67	-2	2320	37	1222	15	0.75	0.30	0.00	0.08	0.22	0.00	0.00	1.35	25.74	9.42
Scranton	83	50	71	-1	2750	-69	1566	-44	1.06	1.14	0.25	0.04	0.04	0.01	0.00	2.54	19.60	5.40
Allentown	88	54	73	0	3030	-34	1823	-4	0.04	1.94	0.19	0.45	0.63	0.00	0.00	3.25	20.29	3.54
Reading	87	55	74	0	3137	96	1901	89	0.00	0.18	1.12	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.00	2.08	16.09	-1.43
Harrisburg	89	60	77	1	3417	143	2144	133	0.38	0.01	0.16	0.02	1.05	0.00	0.00	1.62	17.74	2.14
Biglerville	89	55	74	-2	3040	-69	1811	-60	0.02	0.62	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.71	15.93	0.82
Lancaster	88	54	75	-1	3119	-155	1890	-121	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	11.36	-4.24
Philadelphia	88	61	77	0	3448	52	2165	40	0.40	0.00	0.28	0.32	0.00	0.05	0.00	1.05	16.28	0.11

Weather Summary By: National Weather Service, State College, Pennsylvania

Crop Summary By: EricD. Barnes, Agricultural Statistician, NASS

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